

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An order accepting method comprising steps of:  
indicating a menu image in a display panel for inputting  
ordering information to specify an order placed for a service  
5 provided by an associate; and

determining said ordering information in response to an  
input signal according to said menu image;

wherein said menu image includes plural regions for  
setting plural items included in said ordering information,  
10 said plural regions including:

a service selecting region for selecting one of plural  
services different from one another;

a common item specifying region for specifying a common  
item common between said services; and

15 a conditioning item setting region for setting a  
conditioning item settable according to said selected  
service.

2. An order accepting method as defined in claim 1,  
wherein said plural services are provided by plural  
20 associates.

3. An order accepting method as defined in claim 2,  
wherein said plural services are printing services for  
printing an image.

4. An order accepting method as defined in claim 3,  
25 wherein said ordering information is sent to one of said  
associates through a communication line, and said one  
associate is combined with a selected one of said plural  
services according to said ordering information.

5. An order accepting method as defined in claim 4,  
30 wherein said conditioning item setting region is preset  
individually between said plural associates.

6. An order accepting method as defined in claim 4,  
wherein said conditioning item includes information of a  
product type of a product according to said service, layout  
information of said image in said product, and/or information  
5 of an amount and/or cost of said product, and wherein said  
layout information includes information of a size of said  
product, disposition of said image, and/or a size of said  
image.

7. An order accepting method as defined in claim 4,  
10 wherein said plural services include at least one of a  
service of developing photo film and printing said image, a  
reprinting service of said image, a printing service  
according to a template layout of plural images, an enlarging  
printing service of said image, a producing service of a  
15 booklet of plural images, a printing service of said image to  
a sheet, and a printing service of said image to an  
article.

8. An order accepting apparatus comprising:

a display panel for indicating a menu image for  
20 inputting ordering information to specify an order placed for  
a service provided by an associate; and

an input unit for inputting an input signal according to  
said menu image;

a controller for determining said ordering information  
25 in response to said input signal;

wherein said menu image includes plural regions for  
setting plural items included in said ordering information,  
said plural regions including:

a service selecting region for selecting one of plural  
30 services different from one another;

a common item specifying region for specifying a common

item common between said services; and

a conditioning item setting region for setting a conditioning item settable according to said selected service.

5        9. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said plural services are provided by plural associates.

10       10. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said plural services are printing services for printing an image.

15       11. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 10, further comprising a communication control unit for sending said ordering information to, or receiving said ordering information from, one of said plural associates through a communication line, said one associate being combined with a selected one of said plural services.

20       12. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said conditioning item setting region is preset individually between said plural associates.

25       13. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said conditioning item includes information of a product type of a product according to said service, layout information of said image in said product, and/or information of an amount and/or cost of said product, and wherein said layout information includes information of a size of said product, disposition of said image, and/or a size of said image.

30       14. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said service selecting region and said conditioning item setting region are arranged horizontally to one another.

15. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said common item specifying region is disposed under at least one of said service selecting region and said conditioning item setting region.

5 16. An order accepting apparatus as defined in claim 11, wherein said plural services include at least one of a service of developing photo film and printing said image, a reprinting service of said image, a printing service according to a template layout of plural images, an enlarging  
10 printing service of said image, a producing service of a booklet of plural images, a printing service of said image to a sheet, and a printing service of said image to an article.

17. A storage medium for storing an order accepting  
15 program, said order accepting program executing a step of indicating a menu image in a display panel for inputting ordering information to specify an order placed for a service provided by an associate, and a step of determining said ordering information in response to an input signal according  
20 to said menu image, said storage medium comprising:

said menu image including plural regions for setting plural items included in said ordering information, said plural regions including:

a service selecting region for selecting one of plural  
25 services different from one another;

a common item specifying region for specifying a common item common between said services; and

a conditioning item setting region for setting a conditioning item settable according to said selected  
30 service.

18. A storage medium as defined in claim 17, wherein

said plural services are provided by plural associates.

19. A storage medium as defined in claim 18, wherein said plural services are printing services for printing an image.

5        20. A storage medium as defined in claim 19, further wherein said order accepting program further executes a step of sending said ordering information to, or receiving said ordering information from, one of said plural associates through a communication line, said one associate being  
10 combined with a selected one of said plural services.

21. A storage medium as defined in claim 20, wherein said conditioning item setting region is preset individually between said plural associates.